

NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Amphibia, Anura, Hylidae, *Nyctimantis rugiceps*: Distribution extension, Colombia

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Colombia, with approximately 732 species of anurans (Acosta-Gálvis *et al* 2006; Frost 2009), is one of the richest countries in the world for amphibians. However, southwestern Colombia and the Amazonian slopes of the departments of Nariño and Putumayo have not received adequate attention, its species richness is little-known, and knowledge on the distribution of most species is deficient (Lynch and Suárez-Mayorga 2004, Mueses-Cisneros 2005).

The tree-frog *Nyctimantis rugiceps* was described by Boulenger (1882). Duellman and Trueb (1976) re-described it based on 14 adult specimens. This species has been reported from the Amazonian region of southeastern Colombia, eastern Ecuador, and northeastern Peru at elevations between 200 and 1200 m (Coloma *et al* 2004, Duellman and Trueb 1978; Frost 2009). The first record of *Nyctimantis rugiceps* from Colombia was reported by Lynch (2005) based on two specimens collected in Leticia, department of Amazonas, in 2003. *Nyctimantis rugiceps* is characterized by having the skin of the skull co-ossified, snout-vent length (SVL) 55.3-67.6 ($\bar{x} = 61.87 \pm 2.94$) mm in males and 59.7-63.0 ($\bar{x} = 61.3$) mm in females (Duellman and Trueb 1976). In life, *N. rugiceps* has a pale gray to light brown dorsum, dark brown venter with big yellow spots on the flanks and on the thighs (Duellman and Trueb 1976).

Between 28 April and 02 May 2008, we collected an adult male *Nyctimantis rugiceps* (PSO-CZ 1033; SVL= 62.8 mm, Figure 2) during a herpetofauna survey carried out at the *El Pato*

farm, municipality of Orito, department of Putumayo (ca. 00°45' N, 76°54' W, 570 m above sea level, Figure 1), located on the southern Amazonian slopes of the Andes of Colombia. The habitat where the tree-frog was found is tropical super-humid rainforest (Holdridge 1967). The specimen is currently housed at the *Museo de Historia Natural, Colección Zoológica* (PSO-CZ), Universidad de Nariño.

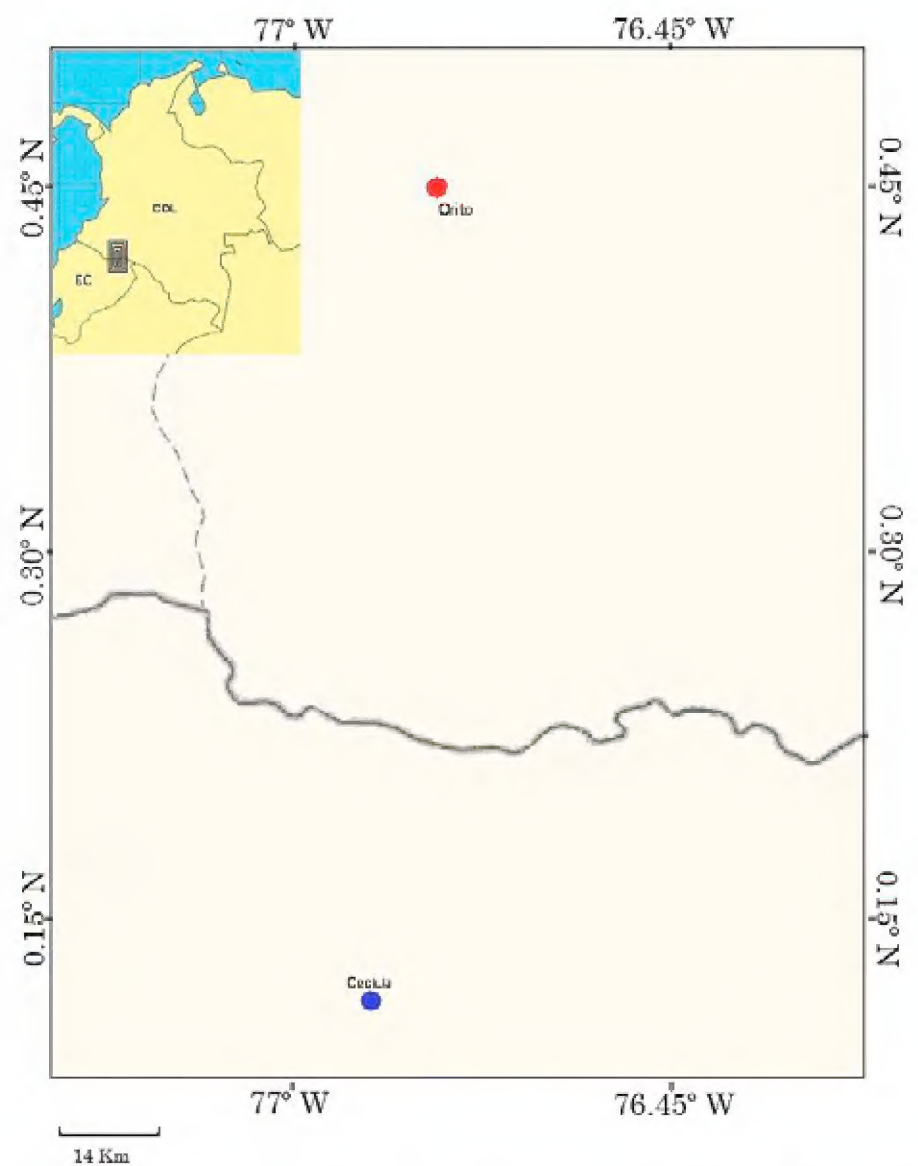


Figure 1. Map showing the new locality of *Nyctimantis rugiceps* in Colombia at the municipality of Orito, department of Putumayo (red circle) and the previous northernmost locality at Santa Cecilia, Ecuador (blue circle).

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The locality herein reported is the northernmost record of *Nyctimantis rugiceps*, extending its range ca. 83 km from Santa Cecilia, Ecuador, the previous northernmost locality (Duellman and Trueb 1976), and ca. 543 km from Leticia, the first record of *N. rugiceps* in Colombia (Lynch 2005).

Several individuals of *Nyctimantis rugiceps* were heard during the sampling nights calling from the canopy of the trees. Specimen PSO-CZ 1033 was captured in a hole with water in the branch of a tree, 1.6 m over the floor. It vocalized slowly approximately each five minutes and increased the rate when raining.



Figure 2. *Nyctimantis rugiceps* (PSO-CZ 1033, adult male, 62.8mm SVL) from the farm “El Pato”, Putumayo, Colombia. Photos by M. Betancourth-Cundar and M. Anganoy-Criollo.

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